# Capability Gap Brief

## Fire Support Coordination

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27 Feb 2007

# FMID Capability Gaps

| FMID Section | Priority |
|---|---|
| Unmanned Aircraft Systems | 1 |
| Assault Support | 2 |
| Target Acquisition | 3 |
| Counter fire / Targeting | 4 |
| Fire Support Coordination | 5 |
| Information Operations | 6 |
| Personal Equipment | 7 |
| Small Arms / Crew-Served | 8 |
| Mobility / Counter-Mobility | 9 |
| Rockets / Artillery | 10 |
| Riverine / Special Operations | 11 |
| Public Affairs | 12 |
| Offensive Air Support | 13 |
| Electronic Warfare | 14 |
| Civil Affairs | 15 |
| Offensive Anti-Air Warfare | 16 |

***Capability Analyzed***
**Fire Support Coordination**

**8 JCA's supported: Hi Pri-Provide and Employ Joint Fires**
**9 MCT's supported : Hi Pri-Assess/Conduct combat assessment**

**Deficiencies in Conditions**: Unable to provide adequate fire support planning in Joint environment.
**Deficiencies in Standards**: Emerging gap to provide targeting data in digital format.

Inputs utilized for analysis:

- MAGTF FAA dtd Jun 2006
- DC, PP&O GCE Advocate's Capability List.
- Marine Corps Midrange Threat Estimate: 2005-2015
- Tgt Acquisition Platoon UNS Jan 2006
- Current Funding Data: POM-08 and Supplemental
- TLDHS – 1992 MNS, 2003 USA ORD, 2003 MC O&O
- JETS ICD 29 July 05
- STOM and DO Concepts, Grey Book

Gap, Excess, or Shortfall

| | |
|---|---|
| **D** | **Fire support doctrine will require digital incorporation. ANGLICO doctrine needs to be input to MAGTF Fires WP.** |
| **T** | **Jump school quotas for ANGLICO Airborne capability.** |
| **M** | **TLDHS/JETS continued/initiate funding.** |
| **P** | **Target Effects Officer at RCTs.** |

Current PORS:

- Target Location, Designation and Handoff system (TLDHS) – A system of systems developed to gather and digitally pass target information to various service and joint fires platforms.
- C4 systems: AFATDS, WEEMC, JADOCS, CAC2S
- Joint Effects Targeting System (JETS) – A truly Joint TLDHS capability only at the approved ICD stage. Technology and working level inter-operabilty make this a future reality.
- Common Laser Range Finder (CLRF) – Vector 21B
- Portable Lightweight Designator Rangefinder - PLDR

# Identification / Impact of the Capability Gap

1. **Shortfall in Digital Target Handoff Capability**
   - **Effects the following MCTs:**
     - **3.2 Attack Targets (20+ sub tasks)**
     - **5.3.2.6 Establish/Conduct FSCC Operations**
     - **5.3.4 Conduct Fire Support Coordination**
     - **5.3.5.4.2 Conduct Terminal Control**
   - **Effects the GCE ACL "…forces require the ability to rapidly and accurately convey target attack…"**

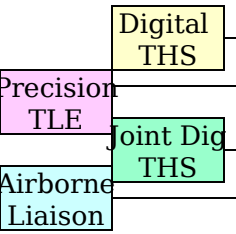
2. **Manportable Precision Target Location Capability Gap**
   - **Effects the MCTs listed above.**
   - **Effects the GCE ACL "…MAGTF to provide discriminating/precision fires…"**

# Identification / Impact of the Capability Gap

3. **Joint Digital Target Handoff Capability gap**
   - **Effects the following MCTs:**
     - **As listed above**
     - **5.5 Conduct Joint and Coalition Operations**
   - **Effects the GCE ACL "…forces require the ability to rapidly and accurately convey target attack…"**

4. **Shortfall in Joint/Combined Airborne Fire Support Liaison Capability**
   - **Effects the following MCTs:**
     - **3 Employ Firepower (ICW)**
       - **5.3 Direct, Lead, Coordinate Forces/Operations**
       - **5.5 Conduct Joint and Coalition Operations**
       - **5.5.1 Integrate and Operate with Joint/Combined Forces**
   - **Effects current OPlans**

- **<u>Gaps Summarized</u>**




1. **Digital Target Handoff**
2. **Precision Target Location**
3. **Joint Digital Target Handoff**
4. **Airborne Liaison**

# Key Attributes Needed to Resolve the Gap

Digital THS

- **Digital target handoff capability must be provided to primary fire support team members throughout MAGTF (FACs/JTACs, Arty FO, NGF Spotters).**

Joint Dig THS

- **Digital target handoff devices must be able to remain interoperable with fire support platforms (Naval and Joint).**

Precision TLE

- **Target location devices must be man portable and provide coordinates within 10m target location error.**

Airborne Liaison

- **Primary fire support liaison organization, ANGLICO, requires airborne capability (training, facilities, equipment, and experience qualifications).**

# Capability Gap Issues

Digital THS

- **Digital target handoff is not a new capability and is realized through TLDHS (Strikelink/MRT). The funding is not programmed to meet increased requirements (addition of JTACs, MARCENT UUNS, MARSOC, Recon increases).**

Digital THS

- **TLDHS is currently compatible with all Naval Strike A/C, and AFATDS. Any changes to those systems though, require subsequent changes in TLDHS.**

Precision TLE

- **Target location devices are not a new capability but can only attain a 50m TLE at 5K due to use of magnetic compass. Current technology does not allow for a lightweight non-magnetic compass capability; further research is required.**
  - **Target location has a direct correlation to the precision munitions (arty/rockets) gap.**

Joint Dig THS

- **A truly Joint digital targeting handoff system is a new capability. All services have a targeting handoff system but none that is interoperable throughout the joint community.**

# Capability Gap Issues

Airborne Liaison

- **An airborne capability is not a new capability for the MC or ANGLICO.**
  - **When ANGLICO was reestablished in 2003, an airborne capability was not identified as a requirement.**
    - **Not seen as immediately necessary?**
    - **Oversight?**
    - **Personality driven?**
  - **UNS (CDTS # 04177UB ) for airborne capability festered due to lack of support by decision makers at the time. New UNS (same request) being submitted supposedly with concurrence from all 3 MEFs.**
  - **Airborne capability resident in the 2 Reserve ANGLICOs (3d and 4th).**
  - **Current OpTempo will not allow for near term realization of an airborne capability within the Active ANGLICOs.**

# Integration Concerns

Digital THS

- **Digital target handoff is inextricably tied to C2 ID. Operational requirements lead by FMID.**

Airborne Liaison

- **ANGLICO as part of the MAGTF CE falls under MCCDC for advocacy. CEAB lead by C2ID. ANGLICO advocate resides in FMID.**

Airborne Liaison

- **Long pole in airborne capability is training piece (TECOM).**

# Doctrine/OTLPFM Analysis

Digital THS

- **Digital target handoff capability must mirror current voice procedures for which there is already existing doctrine.**

Digital THS

- **Current orders process incorporates automated fire support systems. Will need to be expanded to include additions to the digital fires network.**

Joint Dig THS

- **Joint Fires TTPs may need adjustment with inclusion of joint digital target handoff systems. But to reiterate, digital must mirror voice procedures.**

Airborne Liaison

- **There is no ANGLICO doctrine. Had been requested via UNS (#04138UB). Solution was to develop doctrine within MAGTF Fires MCWP. Doctrine, T&R standards and mission statement would validate airborne capability.**

# D/Organization/TLPFM Analysis

- **Organizational changes alone will not mitigate the identified gaps in fire support coordination.**

# DO/Training/LPFM Analysis

- **Training alone will not mitigate 3 of the 4 gaps in Fire Support Coordination.**
- **Training will be required with any fielding of digital target handoff or target location systems.**
  - **Initially NETT (CONUS and in-theater)**
  - **Eventually Ft Sill and EWTGs**

Digital THS

Precision TLE

Joint Dig THS

Airborne Liaison

- **Training is the primary solution for the airborne capability gap. (Jump school).**
  - **Reality of attendance needs to be determined prior to TIP submissions due to OpTempo.**

# DOT/Leadership/PFM Analysis

- **Leadership and Education**

Digital THS

  - **Leadership needs to be a focus of some of the digital training. While not brand new, digital CFF/9 line reduces the soothing cacophony of radio speakers.**

Airborne Liaison

  - **Leadership is the second most important pillar in mitigating the airborne liaison gap.**
    - **The ANGLICO jump mission is potentially an emotional issue for some.**
    - **Operational requirements clearly state the need for this capability but there may be bigger fish to fry. Little to no relevance in OIF.**

# DOTL/Personnel/FM Analysis

Digital THS

- **Digital handoff capability gap is not mitigated by additional personnel. Does not reduce personnel requirements due to need for voice backup.**

Joint Dig THS

- **Joint digital handoff capability is possibly mitigated by inclusion of sister service personnel.**

Airborne Liaison

- **Airborne capability would require additional personnel, specifically parachute riggers.**

# DOTLP/Facilities/M Analysis

- **Facilities**
  - **A change in facilities alone, quantity or quality, will not mitigate the gaps in fire support coordination.**

Digital THS
Precision TLE
Joint Dig THS

  - **Materiel solutions for digital handoff and precision target location will require coordination with armory working group within DC, I&L.**

Airborne Liaison

  - **Further analysis of existing paralofts is required to ensure adequacy if ANGLICO airborne capability is to be reinstated.**

# DOTLPF/Materiel Analysis

Digital THS

- **Digital target handoff**
  - **There is a material solution available and is currently programmed in the FYDP. Current funding though does not allow for meeting the current AAO.**
    - **Previous PPBE did not account for JTAC Concept, MARSOC, Recon growth, and TACP Suite UUNS.**
  - **There are joint solutions available:**
    - **PFED, TACP CASS and BAO Kit are Army and Air Force digital target handoff devices. None of these incorporates <u>both</u> air and surface fires.**

Precision TLE

- **Precision Target Location**
  - **There are currently no man-portable/handheld target location material solutions that provide a 10m TLE.**
  - **The fielded Vector 21B laser range finder uses magnetic compass technology and can only attain a 50m TLE.**
  - **There are joint solutions available, none of which attain a 10m TLE.**

# DOTLPF/Materiel Analysis

Joint Dig THS

- **Joint Digital Handoff Capability**
  - **There are currently no material solutions that are truly joint (ground and naval fires and all joint strike aircraft).**
  - **The JROC approved Joint Effects Targeting System is a potential material solution. JETS is currently at a pre-milestone A stage (with approved ICD).**

Airborne Liaison

- **Airborne Liaison Capability**
  - **Fielding the M-6 parachute to active component ANGLICOs would only partially solve this gap.**

# Materiel Recommendation

Digital THS

- **Digital Target Handoff Capability**
  - **Increase programmed TLDHS funding to ensure fielding to all fire support teams in the MAGTF and MARSOC.**

Precision TLE

- **Precision Target Location**
  - **Program funding for RDT&E to attain capability in handheld target location devices and eventual procurement.**

Joint Dig THS

- **Joint Digital Target Handoff Capability**
  - **Program funding in support of JETS development and eventual procurement.**

Airborne Liaison

- **Airborne liaison**
  - **Increase M-6 parachute AAO to incorporate active component ANGLICOs.**

# Non-Materiel Recommendation

Airborne Liaison

- **Airborne Liaison Capability**
  - **Leadership**
    - **An ANGLICO OAG is currently planned for May 2007. The jump mission issue should be discussed, analyzed and briefed for decision to DC, CDI as the CE Advocate. DC, PPO (Plans) & DC, Aviation (Plans) must be included in the analysis.**
    - **Experienced parachutist (jump masters, pathfinders) will need to be grown.**
  - **Doctrine**
    - **Incorporate recently developed ANGLICO Core METLs which include airborne capability.**
  - **Training**
    - **Submit to the '08 TIP, Airborne School seats for active component ANGLICO. Must first analyze feasibility of attendance due to current ops.**
  - **Facilities**
    - **Via home stations, submit MilCon requirements for any necessary paraloft refurbishment.**